

AGENDA
Whitewater Landmarks Commission
Thursday, November 2, 2017 – 6:00 PM
Municipal Building, City Manager's Conference Room, 2nd Floor
312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order

- Call to Order and roll call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes – October 5, 2017
- Set date and time of next meeting – December 7, 2017
- Hear Citizen Comments: No formal Landmarks Commission Action will be taken during this meeting although issues raised may become a part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a three minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however citizens are invited to speak to those specific issues at the time the Commission discusses that particular item.

*Presentation by Randall Aschbrenner regarding restoration of the façade of the Landmark Hotel

* Jim Heckendorf possible purchase of the Hamilton House (Heckendorf may attend meeting)

Reports

- Status of the Burial Preservation Acts Committee (Blackmer)
- Brickyard Park (Brickyard Historic Area) report (Kienbaum)
- Effigy Mounds Preserve (Helmick)
- Proposed Library Expansion Project (Helmick)
- Birge Fountain Conservation (Kienbaum)
- Historic City Owned Property Inventory Tags (Blackmer)

Unfinished Business

- Progress of subcommittee volunteers to work on reprint of brochure
- Garage addition completed at Lyman Wight Octagon House
- Mark Ohm contacted regarding 222 Center Street and Landmarks Commission not pursuing Local Landmark status for property

New Business

- Individual commission members projects for December
- Federal Historic Tax Credit Concerns
- National Historic Preservation Certificate

Future Agenda Items

Adjournment



WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION MINUTES

Thursday, October 5, 2017

City Manager Conference Room Whitewater Municipal Building, Whitewater, WI

The regular meeting of the Landmarks Commission was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairperson Blackmer. MEMBERS PRESENT: Blackmer, Brady (arrived a few minutes late), Helmick, Kienbaum, Richardson, Haselow. MEMBERS ABSENT: Grady. OTHERS PRESENT: Michele Smith.

It was moved by Helmick and seconded by Haselow to approve the agenda. AYES: Blackmer, Brady, Helmick, Kienbaum, Richardson, Haselow. NOES: None. ABSENT: Grady.

It was moved by Richardson and seconded by Kienbaum to approve the minutes of 8/31/17. AYES: Blackmer, Brady, Helmick, Kienbaum, Richardson, Haselow. NOES: None. ABSENT: Grady. It was then moved by Kienbaum and seconded by Haselow to approve the minutes of 9/7/17. AYES: Blackmer, Brady, Helmick, Kienbaum, Richardson, Haselow. NOES: None. ABSENT: Grady.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – November 2, 2017 6:00 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

BURIAL PRESERVATION ACTS COMMITTEE (Helmick). The Committee met on Tuesday at the State Capitol. There was not any testimony whatsoever against the Act. It is believed that the Council is in favor of the changes to strengthen the Law, and further clarify points that were vague.

BRICKYARD PARK (Brickyard Historic Area) (Kienbaum). The Jefferson Street / Starin Road area in question is being looked at as the location for the new dog park. Kienbaum does not feel that is a good location for the Park. Blackmer wondered whether it would be a good idea to draft language to be used on a sign in case funds would become available for the sign. Mitch Simon gave Ken Kienbaum a photograph of the kilns that were located on the parcel. Ken will bring the photo to the next Landmarks Commission meeting.

EFFIGY MOUNDS PRESERVE (Helmick/Blackmer). Helmick indicated he and Kori Oberle met with the Parks and Recreation Director, Eric Boettcher, and they are encouraged by the way he is approaching the preserve. He is anxious to get trails stabilized, then further review plans over the next couple of years. He has presented it as a way of reducing their mowing requirements. Boettcher would like to take a tour of the Mounds soon and get the stones and plaques situated. He would like to extend the trail so people have a better idea how to get there. Boettcher suggested the possibility of removing a small portion of the curb on Indian Mound Parkway, creating a couple of parking spaces, and installing signage to describe the Mounds and portraying the trail route. An informal kiosk is also being considered. There was a good exchange of ideas, and Helmick is encouraged that positive changes are coming. Helmick indicated that the Friends of the Mounds Group (FOTEM) had a meeting on October 4, and Rob Nurre presented on the Man Mound. Discussion regarding “adoption of a Mound” occurred, and all felt it was a good system to help with light maintenance.

LIBRARY EXPANSION – Helmick updated the Committee on the fact that the Library consultant will be coming before the Library Board to discuss future expansion in more detail. Helmick reported that there has been some brainstorming discussion about partnering with other groups – such as a studio for Cable, space available to the Park, enlarging the Maker Space, enlarging the Children’s area.

BIRGE FOUNTAIN CONSERVATION (Kienbaum) Kienbaum reported that there is algae in the water, which Kienbaum opines is a result of the type of cement that was used when repairs were made. It was noted that the Birge Fountain Committee did post a meeting, but was unable to meet due to a lack of a quorum. Per Kienbaum’s meeting with the City Manager, Clapper has not yet received the Conservator’s report. Question was raised as to who is in charge of monitoring the cameras for the Birge Fountain now that Alan Luckett has left the City.

HISTORIC CITY-OWNED PROPERTY TAGS (Blackmer) Blackmer indicated that the project is continuing, and will be ongoing for some time. Suzanne will assist.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PROGRESS OF SUBCOMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS TO WORK ON REPRINT OF BROCHURE. Everything is done. Helmick had a brief discussion with Council President Singer where Singer informed Helmick that the Walton Oaks will remain a Landmark. Kathy Brady indicated that the University has a print shop that may work for the community. She will assist in looking into it.

222 CENTER STREET AS LOCAL LANDMARK. Pat received a letter from Attorney Olm on behalf of his client, Jim Caldwell, as owner of 222 W. Center Street. Caldwell is not receptive to having the property declared a Landmark. All members were in complete agreement that if any owner is not interested in the designation, they do not wish to pursue it. Blackmer will confirm this information with Attorney Olm.

LANDMARK HOTEL, 204 W. MAIN. Blackmer indicated that she is awaiting plans from Randall Aschebrenner for the building façade. It was noted that he has been granted a façade loan from the Community Development Authority, and has also contacted the Downtown Whitewater (DTWW) group for funds. DTWW has indicated they are not in a financial position to contribute. White vinyl windows have been mentioned, but with no firm plans having been submitted, the group agreed it would be premature to comment. The group reaffirmed that they are willing to work with developers and will do anything they can to assist. Since Aschebrenner indicated he wanted most of the work completed by Winter, Blackmer will draft a letter to him to see whether he is ready to take the next step.

HOME TOUR OF LOCAL LANDMARKS. Blackmer spoke to the Federation of Women’s Clubs regarding holding of a joint home tour between Landmarks and the Federation of Women’s Clubs. She

suggested that profits be donated to the Federation Endowment Fund, as they are working towards raising \$250,000. Research has been completed - we would just have to put it together. Further information will be forthcoming.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMISSION MEMBERS PROJECTS FOR NOVEMBER. Blackmer will contact Randy Aschebrenner and will continue with the tag project. Richard will search the Library archives and Historical Society about swimming pools and additional photographs (north end of Jefferson). Pat will also write to Attorney Olm to confirm that Landmarks will no longer be investigating the possibility of designating 222 Center Street as a Landmark. Dan Richardson will continue to take property photos. Ken Kienbaum will work on Jefferson park signage possibilities. Kathy Brady will obtain brochure printing quotes.

NATIVE AMERICAN DAY. (Annual enrichment program for Whitewater Middle School Students). It was noticed that the Schools are bringing in Native Americans to speak to 7th grade students. It was suggested that this would be a perfect time to introduce the Mounds to them. Timing is such that it would be difficult to arrange anything at this late date, whether that be tours or presentations. Effigy Mounds Tours on Full Moon evenings were discussed. Almost every upcoming date over the next couple of years is a holiday. More discussion will occur at a future meeting.

LANDMARKS COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE TO BIRGE FOUNTAIN COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT. Blackmer indicated that the group never formally appointed a Landmarks Commission member to the Birge Fountain Committee this year. Several members complimented Ken Kienbaum on the good job he has done on the Committee, and Kienbaum was unanimously re-elected to serve as Landmarks Commission representative to the Birge Fountain Committee (with Kienbaum abstaining from the vote).

DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSAL OF ORDINANCE 17.12.040, SUBSECTION 17.12.040(e) BY GRADY AND COUNCIL ACTION. It was noted that the Ordinance did not pass, and no further discussion was needed.

ADJOURNMENT. It was moved by Kienbaum and seconded by Helmick to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele R. Smith, Secretary